

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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R 271545Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5443

INFO CINCLANT

COMICEDEFOR

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 0720

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS IC UK

SUBJECT: PEOPLES ALLIANCE REACTS TO HALLGRIMSSON-WILSON TALKS

REF: REYKJAVIK 0712

1. COMMUNIST-DOMINATED DAILY THJODVILJINN AND PEOPLES ALLIANCE WASTED NO TIME IN DENOUNCING HALLGRIMSSON-WILSON TALKS IN LONDON AND BRITISH PROPOSAL FOR GOI-UK NEGOTIATIONS FOR REGIME TO FOLLOW EXPIRATION OF PRESENT FISHERIES AGREEMENT ON NOVEMBER 13. PAPER JUNE 27 CLAIMED THAT ICELAND'S FUTURE WAS TIED UP WITH FORCING ALL FOREIGN FISHERMAN OUT OF 50 MILE ZONE SINCE 95 PER CENT OF ICELANDIC CATCH COMES FROM THAT AREA AND BECAUSE IT WAS THERE THAT SCIENTISTS BELIEVED MOST SERIOUS OVER-FISHING WAS TAKING PLACE. THEREFORE, NO CONCESSIONS MUST BE MADE TO ANY FOREIGNERS WITHIN 50 MILE ZONE AFTER NOVEMBER 13.

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2. HAVING CAPTURED PUBLIC OPINION IN 1973 COD WAR AND HAVING BEEN

SUCCESSFUL IN DIVERTING ISSUE INTO ANTI-WESTERN, ANTI-NATO CHANNELS, PEOPLES ALLIANCE MUST HOPE TO REPEAT THEIR PERFORMANCE. AT SAME TIME, IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT IN 1974 NATIONAL ELECTIONS, PA WAS ONE-UPPED BY INDEPENDENCE PARTY STAKING ITS CAMPAIGN ON A 200-MILE LIMIT. ANOTHER ELEMENT MAY BE THAT ONLY WESTERNERS FISH WITHIN 50-MILE LIMIT WHILE EASTERNERS (POLES, EAST GERMANS, SOVIETS) FISH WITH FACTORY TRAWLERS BETWEEN 50 AND 200 MILES.

3. RATHER ODD EDITORIAL IN PROGRESSIVE PARTY TIMINN JUNE 27 CLAIMED THAT PRIMIN HALLGRIMSSON HAD PASSED THROUGH LONDON ON PRIVATE BUSINESS AND THAT PRIMIN WILSON, LEARNING HE WAS THERE HAD INVITED HIM FOR COURTESY CALL. WILSON THEN USED HALLGRIMSSON AS "ERRAND BOY" TO CARRY MESSAGE BACK TO ICELAND THAT UK WANTED FISHERIES TALKS. TIMINN CALLED THIS "DOUBTFUL COURTESY." THIS EDITORIAL WOULD SEEM TO INDICATE THAT IF THERE WAS CONSULTATION BETWEEN PRIMIN AND TOP LEADERSHIP OF PROGRESSIVE PARTY BEFORE LONDON VISIT, WORD EITHER DID NOT REACH TIMINN'S EDITOR AND FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN THORARINN THORARINSSON OR ELSE THERE ARE MISGIVINGS WITHIN THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY ABOUT THE VISIT.
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